

THE DAILY BEE

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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tschuck, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending July 5, 1896, was as follows:
Sunday, July 5, 1896, 20,000
Monday, July 6, 1896, 20,000
Tuesday, July 7, 1896, 20,000
Wednesday, July 8, 1896, 20,000
Thursday, July 9, 1896, 20,000
Friday, July 10, 1896, 20,000
Saturday, July 11, 1896, 20,000
Average, 20,000

George B. Tschuck, sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 5th day of July, A. D. 1896.
N. P. Felt, Notary Public, State of Nebraska.

George B. Tschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, and that the actual circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending July 5, 1896, was as follows:
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OWING to an unexpected pressure upon our columns it has been necessary to defer the publication of Chairman Dickle's closing argument. It is now in type and will positively appear in THE SUNDAY BEE.

With Wyoming safely in the union, another howl from the provincial east may be expected all along the Atlantic line.

The board of public health might profitably extend its rules and regulations to the medical quacks and impostors operating in the city.

The practice of jumping on moving motor trains promises to effect its own cure. The resulting accidents are a painful protest against a habit that is useful only in swelling the demand for crutches.

The double-decked contemporary still insists that the Missouri river shall be opened for navigation. A line of flying machines should also be put in operation between Vancouver's Island and the Gulf of Mexico.

Mr. GEORGE D. PERKINS, proprietor of the Sioux City Journal, has been nominated for congress from the Eleventh Iowa district. If elected it will spoil a good editor to make a commonplace congressman.

The republican alliance farmers in Adams county don't propose to allow ex-County Judge McKeligan to dictate to them, and threaten to shake the alliance and go into the republican primaries. This is the sensible thing to do.

The fiscal report of the financial condition of Canada shows a surplus of eight million dollars, despite the wholesale speculations of officials during the year. A surplus is a rarity in Canada, and few governments in the world need it more.

The local medical society has at last realized the necessity of enforcing the medical laws of the state. It is time to put a stop to the impostors preying upon the public. As a matter of professional security, regular practitioners should not only comply with the law themselves but endeavor to secure better laws for the protection of the profession and the public.

"If Broatch carries Douglas county in spite of whisky 'bottle,'" exclaims a pal of the pretender. While the words were being penned Broatch and his tools were scouring the saloons, dispensing Tammany bottle over the bars and purchasing favor with cold cash. The knaves actually imagine that the people are too blind to see their trickery and hypocrisy.

RAILROAD movements in northeastern Nebraska foreshadow an early closing of the gaps in that section. The activity of new lines leaves no doubt of their ability to carry out their plans, thus forcing the older corporations to strengthen their defenses. Improvements and extensions urged by the people and refused are coming to a head by force of competition. What public pressure failed to secure rivalry produces to accomplish.

The attempt of a sensational Washington paper to implicate Judge Groff in a land grabbing scheme will prove a boomerang. Judge Groff is a man of unblemished integrity. His reputation is stainless. As land commissioner he has stood between the settlers and the public plunderers. He has introduced honest business methods in his office, and any of the feeble attempts to couple his name with crookedness will fall flat. In all the departments in Washington there is not a man who better understands his duty or who will more fearlessly do his duty than Commissioner Lewis A. Groff.

The county board of equalization has concluded its labors and adjourned. The increase in the assessed valuation of all property over last year amounts to one hundred and sixty-nine thousand dollars, or a total assessed valuation of twenty-five millions one hundred and seventy-nine thousand dollars. This sum represents scarcely one tenth of the actual valuation of Douglas county property, and forcefully points out the necessity of a radical change in our revenue laws. An honest valuation is impossible under the existing system.

A QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

A decision of the question regarding the authority of the interstate commerce commission to order a reduction of transportation rates will be awaited with great interest. The report of the commission sent to the senate in the early part of last month, regarding rates on food products between the west and the principal distribution centers of the east, the public has been made familiar with. The commission expressed the opinion that any rate or greater charge from the Missouri river than seventeen cents to Chicago and twelve cents to the Mississippi, east side, was excessive, and that the rates should be so reduced and adjusted, and that a reduction of two cents should be made from all stations west of the Missouri river in Nebraska and Kansas. This report was followed up by a notice from the commission to a large number of railroad companies of its purpose to make an order based on its findings, and offering the companies an opportunity to be heard and to present reasons why such an order should not be made. The hearing of the arguments was begun on the eighth instant.

Mr. A. F. Walker, formerly a member of the national commission, and now chairman of that almost forgotten organization, the Interstate Commerce Railroad, appeared as the representative of some twenty-five railroad companies and submitted an elaborate printed response, in a notice issued by the commission. This contained a motion to dismiss the pending proceedings for want of jurisdiction. It urged that if the conclusions of the commission were carried into effect the results would, very largely, reduce the earnings of railroad companies engaged in the transportation of grain. Taken together, the argument of Mr. Walker declared the result would be simply enormous, and it was held that the proposed order in every part relates to the rights of citizens. "It should be unnecessary to call attention to the fact," says the argument of Mr. Walker, "that under our constitution no citizen can be deprived of property without due process of law." Regarding the status of the commission, Mr. Walker contended that it is somewhat anomalous and uncertain. Many of its acts are quasi judicial, although in some respects the nature of its functions is purely administrative. He held that no order should be made by the commission upon the present record for the reason that a proceeding intended to result in the announcement of an order by the commission must be based, on its inception, either upon a complaint instituted by some known and reputable person, or upon a determination of the commission itself to investigate the matter in question, and that the carriers interested must be distinctly apprised of the complaint in advance of the investigation and notified to make answer and be heard thereon.

A similar line of argument, demurring to the jurisdiction of the commission to the present proceedings, was submitted by other attorneys for the railroads. The other side was presented by several attorneys, among them G. M. Lamberton, esq., of Nebraska, who appeared at the request of Governor Thayer and on behalf of the Farmers' Alliance of this state. The argument of Mr. Lamberton is said to have made so strong and favorable an impression that he was requested to have it printed for distribution. We have heretofore spoken of the importance of the issue thus made regarding the jurisdiction of the interstate commerce commission, but it is to be observed that the position of the railroads, so far as they are represented in the argument of Mr. Walker, is not so extreme as was threatened when it was first proposed to demur to the jurisdiction of the commission. The impression then conveyed was that it was the intention to deny the authority of the commission under any circumstances to order a reduction of rates. The decision of the question now under consideration, although it refers only to the present proceedings, will doubtless determine the full scope of the authority of the commission to regulate transportation rates and the conditions under which it may do so.

INTERNATIONAL SILVER CONFERENCE.

The joint resolution introduced in the United States senate by Mr. Teller, looking to an international conference to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver for the purpose of establishing the international use of bimetallic money and securing a fixity of relative value between those metals, follows appropriately the action of the senate in passing the conference silver bill. It is more than probable that the proposed resolution will be adopted by congress, as it is not apparent that any good reasons exist for opposition to it. It is well intended, whatever may be thought of the chances of it accomplishing any practical result. It is doubtless proper that a movement for the purpose contemplated in this country. At any rate it is not likely to start with any other.

Experiences with international conferences for the purpose of adopting a common ratio between gold and silver and establishing bimetallic money does not encourage the hope that anything practical will come of another effort in this direction. Several such conferences have been held, none of which did anything to advance the cause of bimetallicism. The first of these, convened in Paris in 1857, recommended the establishment of the single standard of gold, with silver as a subsidiary minor coin. The conference of 1878 and 1881 were somewhat less unfavorable to the cause of silver. Their object was to bring to the attention of the European nations that had partially demonetized silver the fact that it was for their interest to join in an attempt to re-establish the legal equality of the metals. If the people in each nation of Europe had been alive to their own interests the whole matter would have been settled within a short time after 1878. But neither of the two leading nations, England and Germany, was then ready to do her share. The conference of 1878 operated, however, to call a halt in Germany's demonetization,

and the German government, having refused our invitation in 1878, sent delegates to Paris in 1881. She, as well as England, was then sufficiently alive to the situation to offer substantial aid in the work of joint interest. Unquestionably the work of education has since proceeded bravely in England and Germany. The report two years ago of the British royal commission on gold and silver showed that public opinion was growing steadily more favorable to silver. The silver men have now a hundred votes in the house of commons, a small minority, it is true, but still a large gain over a few years ago, two members of the cabinet are arrayed on their side, and the rising leaders of economic thought in England sustain their cause. In other European states the interest in silver is maintained.

These facts are certainly not without encouragement, but they are the result of years of agitation, and they suggest that it requires a prolonged effort to induce nations to adopt a new monetary policy. Still the situation is undoubtedly clearer and more promising than at any previous time in the last dozen years, and our new silver policy may have a very great influence in stimulating the growth of public opinion in Europe in favor of silver. At any rate the proposal of an international conference for the purpose indicated in the senate resolution appears timely and there is at least a possibility that it may have beneficial results.

BROATCH displays a remarkable amount of nerve in declaring that he is not a vote counter, in face of the fact that his pals, netting under his instructions, have distributed boodle among the boarding houses of every ward. Rolls of from ten to one hundred dollars have been scattered with a lavish hand, thereby restricting being that every vote should be secured regardless of expense. What arrogant hypocrisy to flaunt in the face of the people of Omaha, who are thoroughly familiar with the Janus-faced pretender.

THE city as well as property owners are to be congratulated on the practical disappearance of the wool pavement craze. Experience is a costly teacher. The miles of decaying blocks are the strongest argument against the folly of reduced first cost. The best material, regardless of first cost, is the cheapest in the end. Property owners on streets to be paved are profiting by the mistakes of their neighbors, and have, with practical unanimity, petitioned for substantial material.

THE pet pool of Billy Broatch responds to the yank of the string with a feeble howl, in which falsehood and profanity are mixed in equal proportions. Coming from the immaculate milkshake shuffer, the spiculousness of oil room and ministerial fine worker, it serves to illuminate the disinterested patriotism of one whose great aim in life is to plant Dodds granite with incidental statistics where they will not the usual common-sensations.

OTHER LANDS THAT OUP.

There are strong symptoms of impending disturbance in Eastern Europe. It appears that Russia is preparing to send her Black Sea fleet into Turkish waters for the purpose of enforcing her recent demand for the immediate settlement either in cash or in territory of the 1877 war indemnity, amounting to over \$100,000, which remains still due her by the sultan. Moreover, the czar has within the past three months presented five batteries of Krupp guns and 100,000 repeating rifles to Serbia; and finding that the Belgrade regency was derelict by the state of its finances from complying with his demand for the call to arms of the national militia, he persuaded the Hosier syndicate to issue a Serbian loan of \$1,000,000 in Paris. Mysterious maneuvers are also reported to be taking place on the lower Danube by the large flotilla of steamers belonging to the St. Petersburg Gargaria navigation company, which, although founded ostensibly for commercial purposes, continues a dependency of the imperial navy. Nor is it possible to regard with indifference the reports of serious affairs and simmering conflicts at Musserman between the Armenian and Musserman inhabitants. During the last few years more than 40,000 Moslems have from the Caucasus, who have served their time in the Russian army and therefore still belong to the czar's reserve forces, have settled around Erzerum and in other portions of Armenia near the Russian frontier. Being subjects of the empire, it was impossible for the sultan to exclude them from Ottoman territory. These unwelcome guests have been engaged in frequent quarrels with the agricultural Christian population among whom they dwell. The Turkish troops invariably take part with their fellow-believers against the Christians, and the result is that constant attacks are incessantly being made upon the Christians to the great peril of Europe for protection against Mussulman cruelty and oppression. Russia, which claims a sort of spiritual protectorate over the sultan's Christian subjects, is now threatening once more to intervene in their behalf as she did under similar circumstances in Bulgaria in the war of 1877.

While the increase in the strength of the German army is considerable, its exact distribution is not of so much concern as its effect upon the finances of the country and the military establishments of other European nations. Suffice it to say, therefore, that the war minister asked for a number of strategic railways, seventy new field batteries, making 48 German batteries as against 40 for France and 42 for Russia, and for an increase in the peace effective of about 50,000 men. But even with this increase, according to General von Vernolt, the German peace effective will remain 50,000 less than that of France, while the combined war power of the triple alliance will be in no less than that of Russia and France by about six hundred thousand men. This augmentation of German fighting strength will entail an additional burden of at least \$15,000,000, which must be borne by the people through increased taxation rather than by any system of loans. But even this is not the worst of the case. Not even the minister of war or the chancellor denies that next year and the year after, and so on indefinitely, the people may be asked still further to pay for their industrial life in the endeavor to reach the growing strength of the dragon of militancy. And yet this far the sacrifice is freely made, despite the distress it causes among the artisans and peasantry, for the ruler classes believe with Von Moltke that when the empire seems at stake "the money question becomes a secondary consideration, and every pecuniary sacrifice seems justified at the outset." With Germany thus concentrating her war power, Austria and Italy, her allies, find themselves forced to take

similar measures. How the people of these three countries can endure additional burdens is always a mystery. But it has already been announced at Vienna that the government will propose an increase in the army involving a cost of between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000. Signor Crispi of Italy is too jealous of his position in the dreadnought, moreover, not to strain his personal power, if necessary, to hold the terrible pace, and before long we may expect similar proposals from him. Where is the end of it all? Is a question that grows more and more pertinent with each new year.

On the last day of June the government of the Netherlands introduced in parliament a bill proposing general conscription, theological students and ecclesiastics excepted. This is the perfect end of the world for the army and six years for the navy, to be followed by five years in the landwehr. The army war footing is to be thus raised to 116,000 men; that of the navy proportionately. In 1888 the population of the Netherlands was less than four million five hundred thousand, and it is probably not much larger than that at present. This includes, of course, men, women and children, the perfect end of the world for the army and six years for the navy, to be followed by five years in the landwehr. The army war footing is to be thus raised to 116,000 men; that of the navy proportionately. In 1888 the population of the Netherlands was less than four million five hundred thousand, and it is probably not much larger than that at present. 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